



STATE OF ARKANSAS

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DUSTIN MCDANIEL

May 27, 2011

Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for Consent to
Assign or Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorizations; (WT
Proceeding - No. 11-65).

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing in support of the proposed merger between AT&T and T-Mobile. Arkansas is a rural state and we want to have the same benefits as more metropolitan areas, especially in the realm of wireless broadband access. This merger holds positive potential for individual consumers, small businesses and rural areas throughout Arkansas.

I also believe the merger would have benefits for Arkansas's law enforcement community. If the current spectrum cannot keep up with the continuous and growing demand of today's digital age, it can put Arkansas's public safety network at risk. During emergency situations, Arkansas law enforcement officers depend on wireless networks that are fast and reliable. As someone who deals with these situations regularly, I am concerned with the availability of these needed services, especially in the rural areas of the state. The proposed merger will hasten the development of rural services, with 97 percent of the country having next-generation high-speed wireless available. Our future success in public safety is reliant on the necessary investments to the network.

Additionally, I ask you to consider seriously any effort to compel AT&T to divest 4G spectrum, especially in Arkansas. The requirement to divest spectrum, as AT&T experienced in a previous merger, did not result in increased competition and more consumer choice. In fact, the result in Arkansas was that many of our cities, large and small, experienced a substantial delay in 3G access. I hope that the FCC will do everything in its power to avoid those issues from arising here.

When making your decision on this issue, I urge you to consider the issues stated above. I anticipate that the Department of Justice and the FCC will offer substantial input prior to approving this merger. Public safety and rural access to adequate spectrum by AT&T customers are concerns that merit substantial weight.

Respectfully,



Attorney General Dustin McDaniel

CC:

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell